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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, PQ, PN

SUBJ: HIGHLIGHTS OF 391ST PRC MEETING, OCTOBER 2

- 1. AFTER REPORTING LATEST DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO TREATY NEGOTIATIONS, AMBASSADOR JORDEN RECOUNTED CONVERSATION OF PREVIOUS NIGHT WITH PRESIDENT LAKAS IN WHICH SEVERAL TOPICS OF INTEREST TO PRC WERE TAKEN UP. AMONG THESE WAS RENEWED REQUEST FOR PRESIDENT'S ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING "CHANGE OF STATUS" PROBLEM AND LATTER'S ASSURANCES IN THIS REGARD. AT GOVENOR'S REQUEST, AMBASSADOR JORDEN ALSO ASCERTAINED PRESIDENTIAL ATTITUDE TOWARDS PANAMANIAN PARTICIPATION IN CANAL ZONE STEVEDORING. LAKAS AGREEABLE WITH PRIVATE PANAMANIAN FIRMS UNDERTAKING ONE-FOURTH OF CANAL ZONE STEVEDORING, SELECTION OF FIRMS BEING ON BASIS OF OPEN COMPETITIVE BIDDING.
- 2. GOVENOR PARKER TABLES AND REQUESTED PRC CONCURRENCE IN PACKET OF THREE DOCUMENTS REGARDING FLYING PANAMANIAN FLAG ON VESSELS TRANSITING CANAL. PACKET CONSISTED OF (A) DRAFT DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO FONMIN INFORMING GOP OF US DECISION TO WELCOME FLYING OF PANAMANIAN FLAG TOGETHER WITH US FLAG ON COMMERCIAL VESSELS TRANSITING CANAL; (B) IMPLEMENTING INSTRUCTIONS TO CANAL PILOTS AND PORT CAPTAINS; (C) DRAFT PRESS STATEMENT, PRESS QUESTIONS CONFIDENTIAL

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AND SUGGESTED ANSWERS. DOCUMENTS WERE PREPARED BY

DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF ARMY ON BASIS OF EARLIER DRAFTS CONSIDERED BY PRC. PRC APPROVED DOCUMENTS WITH FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS. AMBASSADOR JORDEN AND GOVERNOR PARKER COMMENTED THAT PHRASE "AFTER HIGHEST CONSIDERATION BY MY GOVERNMENT" IN SECOND SENTENCE OF DRAFT NOTE MIGHT PREFERABLY BE STATED AS "CAREFUL CONSIDERATION." GOV-ENOR PARKER COMMENTED THAT REFERENCE IN NOTE TO PANA-MANIAN "TITULAR SOVEREIGNTY" IS CONSISTENT WITH TERMI-NOLOGY USED IN 1960 NOTE REGARDING FLYING OF PANAMANIAN FLAG IN SHALER TRIANGLE. GOVERNER COMMENTED THAT THIS PHRASE WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE PARTICULARLY APPEALING TO GOP. GENERAL ROSSON, WHILE NOT OBJECTING TO POPOSAL, QUESTIONED WHETHER US UNILATERAL ACTIONS OF THIS TYPE WOULD BE "MEANINGFULLY INFLUENTIAL" IN CONNECTION TREATY NEGOTIATIONS, GOV. PARKER TRANSMITTING APPROVED TEXTS TO WASHINGTON FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF INTERESTED

- 3. GOVERNOR PARKER REPORTED THAT CONGRESSIONAL CUTS IN CANAL ZONE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES AND MANPOWER CEILINGS EFFECTIVE FY 75 PLACED CZG IN CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES WITH REGARD TO PROVIDING CRASH AND RESCUE FIRE SERVICES AT ABLROOK FIELD PURSUANT TO CZG/SOUTHCOM AGREEMENT. GENERAL ROSSON STATED LACK OF SUCH SERVICES SERIOUSLY AFFECTED SOUTHCOM OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES. BOTH PARTIES ARE SEEKING SOLUTION TO PROBLEM.
- 4. GENERAL ROSSON STATED GUARDIA NACIONAL LIAISON OFFICER WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH CANAL ZONE POLICE AND SOUTHCOM PROVOST MARSHAL. HE HAS RELAYED REQUEST FROM GUARDIA NACIONAL G-2, LT. COL. NORIEGA, TO BE PERMITTED INTERVIEW PANAMANIAN SQUATTERS IN CANAL ZONE WITHOUT PRESENCE US AUTHORITIES. PRC CONSENSUS WAS THAT WE SHOULD ACCEDE TO COL. NORIEGA'S REQUEST AS IT LIKELY TO FACILITATE REMOVAL OF SQUATTERS BY PANAMANIAN AUTHORITIES BY END OF YEAR.

 JORDEN

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